

PATENT APPLICATION

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Yoshitaka SASAKI et. al.

Group Art Unit: 2652

Application No.: 10/067,863

Examiner: R. Tupper

Filed: February 8, 2002

Docket No.: 111926

For: WIRING PATTERN AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURING THE SAME AND THIN
FILM MAGNETIC HEAD AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURING THE SAME

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Technology Center 2600

Sir:

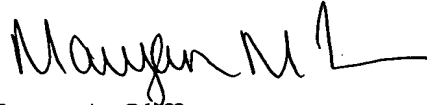
In reply to the March 17, 2004 Restriction Requirement, the shortened statutory period for reply being extended by the attached Petition for Extension of Time, Applicants hereby elect Group I, claims 1-5 and 12-15. The election is made with traverse.

It is also respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all pending claims is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of any one Group of claims would encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining claims. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP §803 in which it is stated that "if the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions" (emphasis added). It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply in the present

application in order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicants and duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

Thus, withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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JAO:MMI/ccs

Attachment:
Petition for Extension of Time

Date: April 23, 2004

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